

F1-042

CALFED BAY-DELTA PROGRAM  
ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION PROJECTS AND PROGRAMS

I. Executive Summary

a. Project Title and Applicant Name:

Bay Point Regional Shoreline Restoration Plan      East Bay Regional Park District (EBRPD)

b. Project Description and Primary Biological/Ecological Objectives

EBRPD proposes to contract with an environmental consulting firm to develop a restoration plan for Bay Point Regional Shoreline. The plan will consider restoration opportunities for 52 acres owned in fee by EBRPD. The property contains upland, saline emergent tidal wetlands and disturbed isolated brackish wetlands.

Once part of a natural marsh, some 40 acres has been diked and partially filled. Exotic vegetation has covered the site and the original grade has subsided. The proposed restoration plan will investigate opportunities to reestablish tidal flow and return the site to saline emergent tidal wetland habitat. The long-term goal is to return some 35 acres to tidal action. The plan will consider using levee material to fill depressed areas and to create revegetated islands. The exact acreage of wetland and riparian habitat created will depend on feasibility projections. Attached is a concept plan describing the Bay Point restoration project.

Creation of saline emergent wetland and riparian habitat by constructing tidal channels at Bay Point will reduce stressors identified in the CALFED Summary of Technical Team Report. The project also will benefit the following priority species: Delta smelt, Sacramento splittail, green sturgeon, striped bass, all runs of salmon, waterfowl, and migrating neotropical bird species. Special status species including Sacramento perch, longfin smelt, California black rail and salt-marsh harvest mouse would also benefit.

c. Approach/Tasks/Schedule

The restoration project will go forward in two phases. In phase one, EBRPD will hire a consultant to determine the feasibility and prepare a plan for restoration. Phase one will include environmental review, threatened and endangered species analysis, topographic mapping, aerial photography, hydrologic studies, soils analysis and permitting. This information will be used to prepare plans and specifications for construction. Design will be coordinated with Contra Costa County, California Department of Fish and Game, Wildlife Conservation Board, Regional Water Quality Control Board, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, National Marine Fisheries Service and the Environmental Protection Agency. Upon completion of the restoration plan, estimated for December 31, 1998, EBRPD will respond to a subsequent CALFED RFP to fund phase two, construction and monitoring.

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d. Justification for Project and Funding by CALFED

The proposed restoration plan will assist EBRPD in planning and designing an enhanced marsh that will satisfy the goals and mission of the CALFED Implementation Strategy. The plan will focus on species and habitats whose restoration will result in the greatest progress towards achieving the CALFED mission to restore ecological health and improve water management for beneficial uses of the Bay-Delta system. Restoration planning will benefit three priority habitats, seven priority species and four species of concern.

e. Budget Costs and Third Party Impacts

Total Cost Estimate \$288,900

Request from CALFED \$235,000 EBRPD Match \$53,900

Restoration planning at Bay Point will have no negative third party impacts. Beneficial third party impacts will include increased flood control protection, passive recreation and environmental education opportunities.

f. Applicant Qualifications

EBRPD operates as a Special District in Alameda and Contra Costa counties and is an experienced land manager. The General Fund operating budget comes from property taxes and assessments levied in Alameda and Contra Costa counties. EBRPD is experienced in wetland/marsh restoration. In conjunction with U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the Wildlife Conservation Board and the California Coastal Conservancy, EBRPD is restoring and operating marsh enhancement projects at Hayward Regional Shoreline and Coyote Hills Regional Park on south San Francisco Bay.

g. Monitoring and Data Evaluation

A 5-year monitoring program will be developed during permitting and carried out after construction. The goal is to return the site to habitat similar to that found on the adjacent property owned by the State Lands Commission. These natural wetlands will serve as a model for restoration the plan. Monitoring procedures will be developed in cooperation with the California Department of Fish and Game, Wildlife Conservation Board and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

h. Local Support/Coordination with other Programs/Compatibility with CALFED objectives.

CALFED's goal to increase habitat for fisheries and migratory birds at Bay Point is supported by local, state and federal legislators, Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors, and State Lands Commission (the adjacent landowner). The Department of Water Resources has expressed interest in the restoration and the Wildlife Conservation Board and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service will consider cost sharing if the proposal is funded under the Category III program.

## II. Title Page

a. Title of Project:

Bay Point Regional Shoreline Restoration Plan

b. Name of Applicant, Address, Phone, Fax, E-mail:

Pat O'Brien, General Manager  
East Bay Regional Park District  
P. O. Box 5381  
Oakland, CA 94605 Phone: (510) 635-0135  
Fax: (510) 635-1417 E-Mail: Pobrien@ebparks.org

c. Type of Organization and Tax Status:

A California Special District. Exempt.

d. Tax Identification Number: 94-6000591

e. Technical and Financial Contact Person (s):

Technical:

Dexter Yee, Engineer  
Pete Alexander, Fisheries Specialist,  
Brad Olson, Environmental Specialist  
Phone: (510) 635-0135 Fax: (510) 635-1417  
E-Mail: Dyee@ebparks.org, Palexand@ebparks.org, and Bolson@ebparks.org

Financial:

Susan E. Williams, Grants Specialist  
Phone: (510) 635-0135 Fax: (510) 635-1417  
E-Mail: Swilliam@ebparks.org

f. Participants/Collaborators in Implementation:

EBRPD as the lead agency will develop a request for proposal, select a consultant in compliance with the provisions of Government Code 4525 et seq, as applicable, and enter into a contract with an environmental planning and engineering firm to prepare a restoration plan, coordinate permitting and develop plans and specifications to construction the marsh restoration project.

g. RFP Project Group Type: Design, Environmental and Permitting

### III. Project Description

#### a. Project description and approach

EBRPD will implement marsh restoration at Bay Point in two phases as grant funding becomes available. During phase one, EBRPD will contract with an environmental consulting firm to develop a restoration plan for 52 acres owned in fee by the District. Once the restoration plan is complete, EBRPD will respond to a subsequent CALFED Category III RFP to fund phase two.

#### Phase One-- Restoration Plan Development

During phase one, EBRPD will contract for a scientific investigation of the project site. Studies will include topographic mapping, aerial photography, environmental assessment, hydrologic studies and soil analysis. The information gathered by the consultant will be compared with published data and used to design the restoration for Bay Point. The information also will be used to prepare environmental documents, permit applications and the monitoring plan. Preliminary study of the site suggests that some 35 acres can be returned to a wetland condition to complement the habitat found on adjacent property owned by the State Lands Commission.

Restoration design will follow guidelines included in the *Design and Biological Monitoring of Wetland and Riparian Habitats Created With Dredged-Materials* (1990) prepared by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. These guidelines were developed during the Donlon Island habitat restoration and have direct applicability to Bay Point. Design review by Contra Costa County, California Department of Fish and Game, Wildlife Conservation Board, Regional Water Quality Control Board, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, National Marine Fisheries Service, Environmental Protection Agency, San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers will insure that none of the existing natural resources will be significantly impacted during construction.

#### Phase Two - Project Construction and Monitoring.

With completion of the restoration plan, EBRPD will apply to the CALFED Bay-Delta Program to fund phase two for implementation of construction and monitoring. EBRPD will go to bid as soon as a funding contract is executed. EBRPD will administer the construction contract and direct activities in the field. Internal channels will be formed to provide adequate tidal flow and sustain the marsh habitat. Levee material will be used to reestablish the original grade and to create islands for the growth of riparian vegetation. Dikes will be removed, as defined in the restoration plan, to permit tidal flow onto the property. Preliminary investigations suggest that some 35 acres of saline emergent tidal marsh and up to 5 acres of riparian habitat could be created. Project goals set forth in the monitoring plan will be evaluated for five years following construction.

Creation of saline emergent tidal wetland and riparian habitat will reduce stressors identified in the CALFED Summary of Technical Team Reports and benefit the following priority species: Delta smelt, Sacramento splittail, green sturgeon, striped bass, all runs of salmon, waterfowl, and migrating neotropical bird species. Additional special status species will benefit including Sacramento perch, longfin smelt, California black rail and salt-marsh harvest mouse.

b. Location and/or geographic boundaries of project

Bay Point Regional Shoreline is located in north-central Contra Costa County on the south side of Suisun Bay. The 52 acre site is near the junction of the San Joaquin and Sacramento Rivers west of Pittsburg and east of the U.S. Naval Magazine at Port Chicago. McAvoy Boat Harbor and PG&E wetlands are adjacent to the east. The State Lands Commission owns property on the north and the Department of the Defense owns marsh on the west. A project location map is attached.

c. Expected benefits

Preliminary investigations suggest that up to 35 acres of new side channels, tidal emergent wetland and riparian habitat can be created at Bay Point Regional Shoreline.

Restoration will reduce the following stressors identified by the CALFED Delta technical teams:

- \* destruction of tidal emergent wetland
- \* elimination of side channels and tributaries
- \* loss of existing riparian zone
- \* reduction of natural regeneration
- \* threats from increased and potential contaminants

The newly created tidal emergent wetlands will play a vital role in maintaining a healthy regional ecosystem by buffering the impacts of flood waters, cleansing runoff pollutants, recharging water supplies and benefitting priority species of fish and waterfowl. Habitat valuable for CALFED priority species is limited to a narrow band along Contra Costa County's northern shoreline. Because residential development pressures at Bay Point are so great, restoration opportunities are rare.

d. Background and biological/technical justification

EBRPD invested over a million dollars in the Bay Point Regional Shoreline restoration when in 1993 it acquired the 53 acre site with Measure AA Bond funds. Previous owners had converted the marsh into a dredge material disposal site sometime prior to 1974. Dikes were constructed to dewater the dredged material and when dry the dirt was removed over several years. As a result of these actions, the site changed to a disturbed annual grassland at higher elevations. Highly saline isolated wetlands formed at lower elevations and at the lowest elevation, barren salt flats formed. The loss of small winding side channels and natural vegetation at Bay Point has eliminated spawning and rearing habitat, food production and nutrient cycling critically important to the western Delta mixing zone.

*Fish Species of Special Concern in California* (California Department of Fish and Game, June 1995) and the *Recovery Plan for the Sacramento/San Joaquin Delta Native Fish* (US Fish and Wildlife Service, November 1996) indicate that shallow water habitat is critical for the Delta smelt and for two other priority species identified by CALFED, the Sacramento splittail which spawns in the shallow waters and the green sturgeon which is an occasional user. Developing striped bass larvae and out-migrating salmon also utilize the nutrient rich mixing zone for feeding. Nutrients are vitally needed for maturation before migration is continued. Bay Point wetlands provide an important nutrient flow that is critical to the survival of these priority species. The wetland and riparian habitat also provide resting and nesting sites for waterfowl, neotropical birds and several special status including the longfin smelt, California black rail, clapper rail, and saltmarsh harvest mouse.

In restoring and enhancing the marsh at Bay Point, EBRPD will increase nutrient cycling to the mixing zone of the western Delta where freshwater from the Sacramento and San Joaquin Rivers mixes with saltwater from San Francisco Bay. The salt/fresh water mixing zone produces large populations of opossum shrimp and amphipods and is critical to the development of juvenile striped bass and green sturgeon, and to a lesser extent out-migrating salmon, which feed on the nutrients. Nutrient production in the western Delta has declined over the last 20 years and the creation of additional wetland and riparian habitat at Bay Point will provide additional decaying organic matter to boost production.

Critical habitat needs for Delta smelt and Sacramento splittail identified by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in the *Recovery Plan for the Sacramento/San Joaquin Delta Native Fishes* include shallow, fresh or slightly brackish backwater sloughs and edge waters for spawning. The backwater must include suitable emergent and submerged plants to provide a substrate for egg attachment. Juveniles require a shallow, protective, food-rich environment for rearing and development. Actions to meet recovery objectives for these species are identified in the plan and include enhancing and restoring aquatic and wetland habitat, riparian vegetation zones, and tidal marshes. Specific actions include brackish water habitat for spawning Delta smelt, Sacramento splittail, and longfin smelt and tidal areas for rearing. The proposed Bay Point restoration will help meet these recovery objectives.

*The Atlas of Tidal and Formerly Tidal Wetlands in Contra Costa County* recognizes the project site as a "Fair Habitat Quality Site". Restoring the wetland would upgrade its status to "Good Habitat Quality Site". The restoration will reintroduce backwater slough habitat similar to wetland found on the two parcels located to the north and west of the site and will result in increased opportunities for spawning and resting for fish and wildlife species using the western Delta.

e. Proposed scope of work

The restoration plan will include the following tasks:

- \* Site Analysis
- \* Environmental Review
- \* Design
- \* Monitoring Plan and Permitting
- \* Plans and Specifications

Site analysis will include endangered species surveys, topographic mapping, aerial photography, hydrologic studies, and soils analysis. This information will be used to prepare CEQA/NEPA documentation, develop a monitoring plan, prepare construction permits and prepare a biddable set plans and specifications for construction.

f. Monitoring and data evaluation

A monitoring program will be developed as part of the permitting application in cooperation with the California Department of Fish and Game and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Monitoring will be carried out for five years following completion of the construction phase to determine if the goals and objectives of the restoration plan are being met.

g. Implementability

EBRPD is requesting \$235,000 from the CALFED Bay-Delta Program to implement the Bay Point restoration plan. EBRPD will match with \$53,900 in staff time for administration for a total project cost of \$288,900. EBRPD will prepare a request for proposal, evaluate and select a consultant, coordinate with California Department of Fish and Game and the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service staff, and oversee design consultation, regulatory review and construction specification preparation. EBRPD anticipates that the plan will be complete by December 31, 1998. Funding for construction and monitoring will be sought from CALFED once the plans and specifications are in place and permitting is approved. An application for construction and monitoring could be prepared based on data gathered for the restoration plan at the beginning of 1999.

#### IV. Costs and Schedule to Implement Proposed Project

EBRPD is requesting \$235,000 from CALFED for Bay Point Restoration Plan development.

##### a. Budget Costs

Project Phase and Task	Direct Labor Hours	Direct Salary and Benefits	Overhead Labor (General Admin and fee)	Service Contracts	Material and Acquisition Contracts	Miscellaneous and other Direct Costs	Total Cost
Consultant Contract				\$235,000			\$235,000
Site Analysis				\$110,000			
Environmental Review				\$ 25,000			
Design				\$ 75,000			
Permitting				\$ 50,000			
Plans and Specifications				\$ 25,000			
CALFED							
Project Administration	1000	\$49.00	\$4,900				\$53,900
Engineer			10 % indirect cost rate				
Fisheries Specialist							
Environmental Specialist							
EBRPD's General Fund							
Total		\$49,000	\$4,900	\$235,000			\$288,900



b. Schedule Milestones

July 28, 1997	Application submitted to CALFED
August 1997	Grant award
March 1998	Funding contract executed
April 1998	Prepare Consultant Contract RFP
May 1998	Select Consultant
November 30, 1998	Review Final Draft
December 31, 1998	Final Plan Complete
February 1, 1999	Request reimbursement

c. Third Party Impacts

Restoration planning at Bay Point will have no negative third party impacts. Beneficial third party impacts would include improved flood control, passive recreation and environmental education opportunities.

V. Applicant Qualifications:

EBRPD is a land and water management system of 88,000 acres of land in 50 regional parks covering 1,745 square miles operating under Sections 5500-5599 of the State Public Resources Code. Seven directors are elected to the Governing Board. The General Manager reports to the Board and supervises 775 permanent and seasonal employees. The Board authorized application to the 1997 CALFED Bay-Delta Ecosystem Restoration Program on June 18, 1997.

Over 84% of EBRPD's funding comes from property tax and assessments. The 1997 General Fund Operating Budget is \$48.5 million, the Capital Budget is \$17.8 million, and Debt Service is \$12.1 million, for total expenditures of \$78.4 million. EBRPD is experienced in federal and state grant administration, successfully completing some 400 projects amounting to \$92,450,000.

Principal Investigator: Pat O'Brien, General Manager

  
Signed 7/25/97

Technical Support Team:

A technical support team has been formed from EBRPD's Advanced Planning, Design and Stewardship Departments to administer the consultant contract. The team brings experience in contract administration and resource management to the project and is committed to enhancing the natural resources of the western Delta.

Dexter Yee, Registered Civil Engineer, has worked for EBRPD for seventeen years. He is experienced in creation and renovation of the District's wetland enhancements, water treatment, sewer, electrical and road projects. As Project Director for the Oro Loma Marsh Enhancement Project at Hayward Regional Shoreline, Dexter coordinated design and permitting with the consultant and personally directed field construction of the marsh restoration project.

Pete Alexander, Fisheries Specialist, has also worked for EBRPD for seventeen years. He is responsible for management of fisheries in 10 lakes/reservoirs, bay shoreline areas and streams within District parkland. Pete conducts annual surveys and water quality monitoring.

Brad Olson, Environmental Specialist, joined EBRPD in 1997 with fourteen years experience in botany, wildlife, wetlands, special-status species, permitting, ecological restoration and environmental planning issues. He has been responsible for determining wetland permitting requirements, formulating mitigation plans, and obtaining permits.

Staff is experienced in wetland restoration and enhancement. The team formed for Big Break is consistent with the successful past performance at Hayward Regional Shoreline where staff from the Acquisition, Stewardship and Design departments has worked diligently to form financial and operational partnerships with U. S. Fish and Wildlife, Wildlife Conservation Board, California Department of Fish and Game, California Coastal Conservancy, San Francisco Bay Joint Venture and North American Wetlands Conservation Council to enhance habitat for the salt marsh harvest mouse and California clapper rail. EBRPD has also successfully concluded marsh enhancement projects at Coyote Hills Regional Shoreline and in conjunction with the Port of Oakland at Arrow Head Marsh at Martin Luther King, Jr. Regional Shoreline on San Francisco Bay.

#### Proposed partnerships

Increased habitat protection at Bay Point is supported by the Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors and the State Lands Commission, the adjacent property owner to the north. EBRPD staff will be coordinating with Contra Costa Mosquito and Vector Control District on restoration activities proposed for the marsh located to the east and with the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service to review potential impacts to the adjacent Department of Defense property to the west of Bay Point Regional Shoreline.

#### VI. Compliance with standard terms and conditions

##### Item 1 Standard Clauses-Contracts with Public Entities

EBRPD complies with state and federal law as set forth in Item 1 Standard Clauses-Contracts with Public Entities and that Item 1 will be included as part to of a final contract executed between the Executive Director, CALFED Bay Delta Program or its designee, the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation and EBRPD.

##### Non-Discrimination Compliance

EBRPD established an Affirmative Action Program in 1973 and actively pursues non-discrimination goals as set forth in the Annual Workforce Diversity Report.

**CALFED BAY-DELTA PROGRAM  
ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION PROJECTS AND PROGRAMS**

**EAST BAY REGIONAL PARK DISTRICT  
BAY POINT REGIONAL SHORELINE RESTORATION PLAN**

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**ADDENDA**

- A        Board Resolution Authorizing Application**
- B        Location Map**
- C        Site Map**
- D        Restoration Concept Plan**
- E        Photographs**
- F        Support Letters**

EAST BAY REGIONAL PARK DISTRICT

RESOLUTION No. 1997-06- 155

June 18, 1997

AUTHORIZATION TO SUBMIT PROPOSALS TO THE  
1997 CALFED BAY-DELTA ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION PROGRAM  
TO INCREASE AND IMPROVE AQUATIC AND TERRESTRIAL HABITAT  
ALONG THE SACRAMENTO/SAN JOAQUIN, SUISUN AND CARQUINEZ STRAIT  
SHORELINE AT MARTINEZ, BAY POINT, BIG BREAK AND OLD RIVER

WHEREAS, the East Bay Regional Park District actively seeks cooperative opportunities to work with other agencies on projects that benefit resources, parks and wildlife in the East Bay; and

WHEREAS, the State/Federal program known as CALFED is expected to request proposals for projects supporting water quality and habitat enhancements in the Delta area.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the East Bay Regional Park District hereby declares the intent of submitting proposals to the CALFED grant program consistent with the program priorities of water quality enhancement and habitat protection and restoration; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board authorizes and directs the General Manager to prepare and submit such proposals as are appropriate to address projects in the Martinez, Pittsburg, Big Break and Old River areas, and to return to the Board with specific project descriptions and recommendations for the appropriation of matching funds, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the General Manager is hereby authorized and directed, on behalf of the District and in its name, to execute and deliver such documents and to do such acts as may be deemed necessary or appropriate to accomplish the intentions of this resolution.

Moved by Director Siri, seconded by Director Radke, and adopted this 18th day of June 1997 by the following vote:

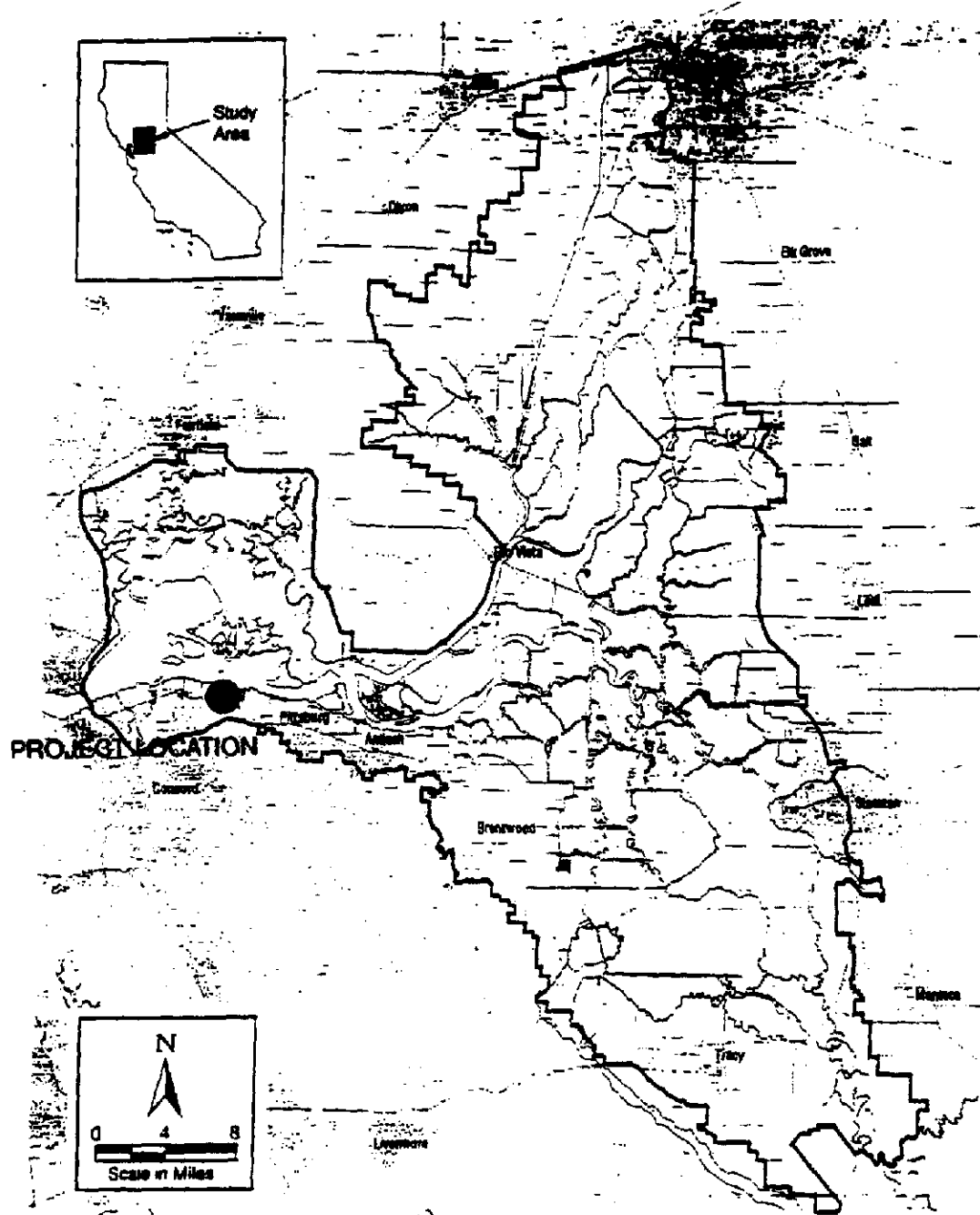
FOR: Directors Jocelyn Combs, Beverly Lane, Ted Radke, Carol Severin, Douglas Siden, Jean Siri, John Sutter

AGAINST: None  
ABSTAIN: None  
ABSENT: None

CERTIFICATION

I, Debra L. Passler, Clerk of the Board of Directors of the East Bay Regional Park District, do hereby certify that the above and foregoing is a full, true, and correct copy of Resolution 1997-06-155 and adopted by the Board of Directors at a regular meeting held on June 18, 1997.

*Debra L. Passler*

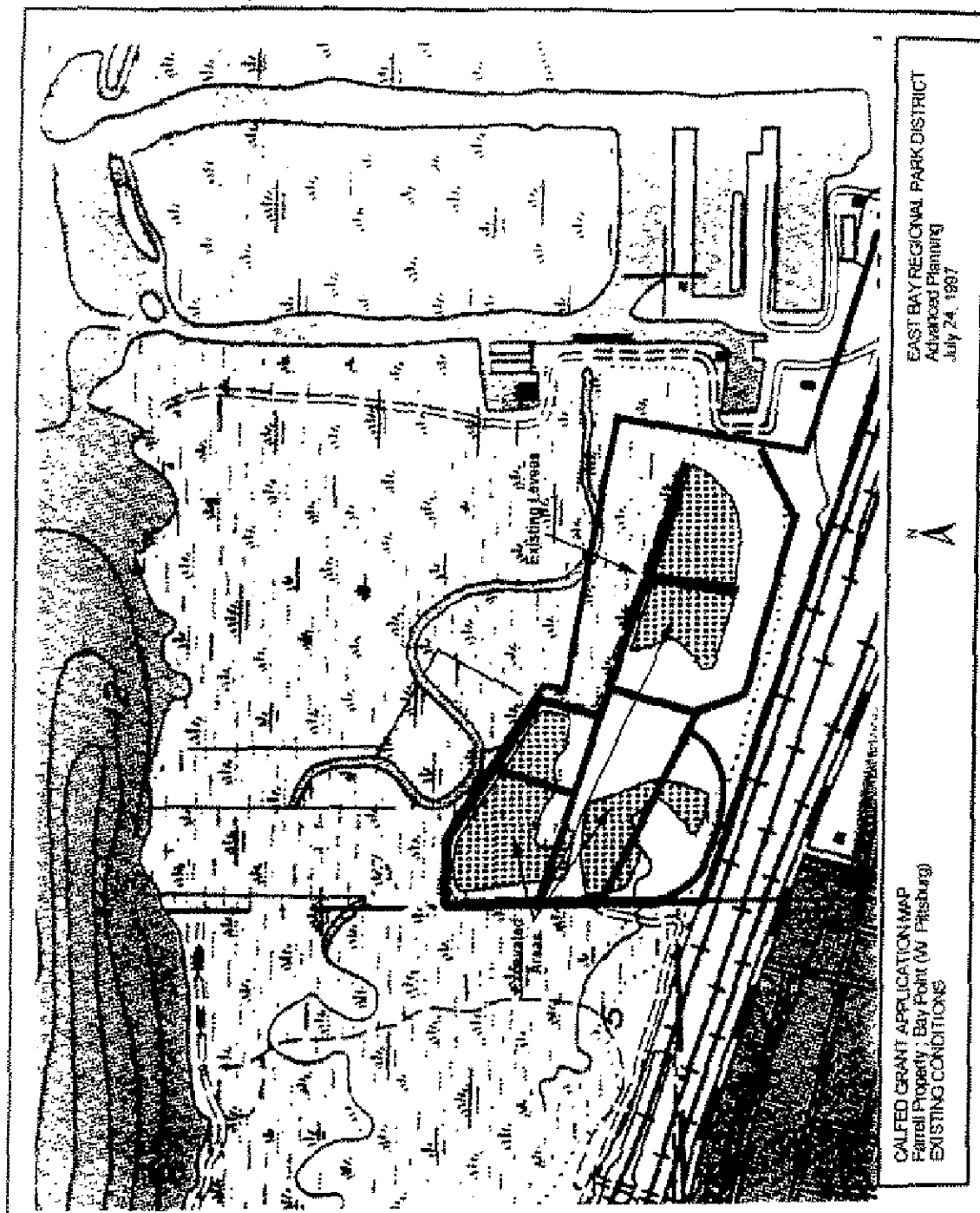


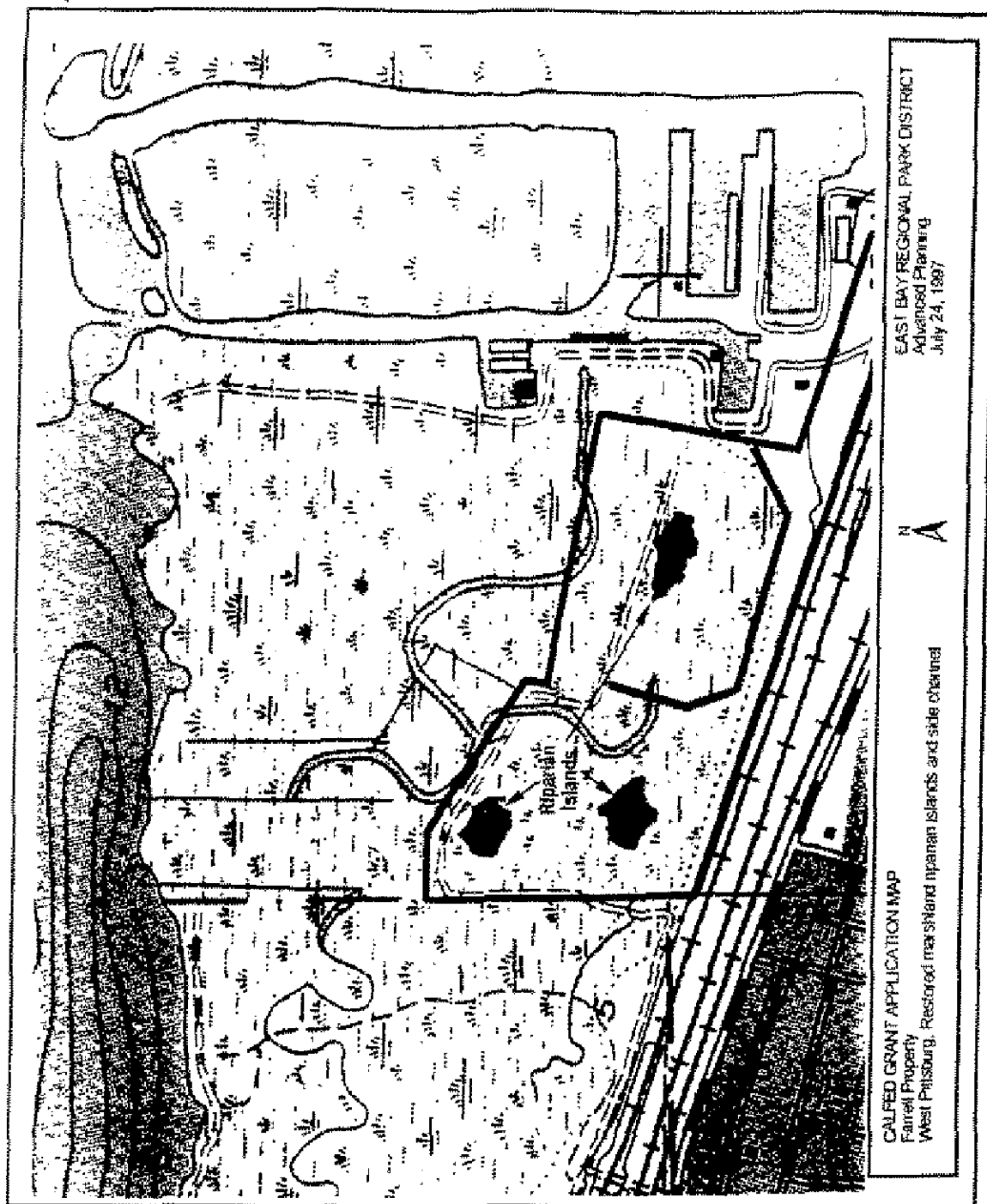
**CALFED  
BAY-DELTA  
PROGRAM**

**EAST BAY REGIONAL PARK DISTRICT**

**BAY POINT REGIONAL SHORELINE ENHANCEMENT PLAN**









ENVIRONMENTAL STUDY OF THE SHORELINE PROPOSED FOR THE  
EAST GAVIOTA REGIONAL PARK, LOS ANGELES COUNTY

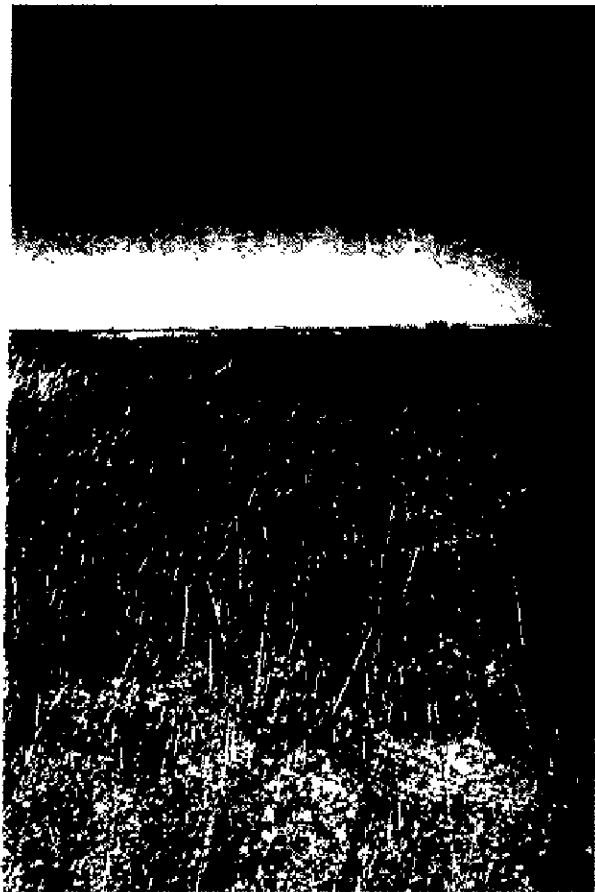
PHOTOGRAPHS



*Central Portion of Bay Point Regional Shoreline Looking Inland to the South*



*Northeast Corner of Site Proposed for Entrance*



Undisturbed Marsh Owned by the State of California  
Located to the North and Adjacent to the Site Proposed for Enhancement

## Joseph Canciamilla

Supervisor, District Five  
Contra Costa County  
Board of Supervisors

315 East Leland Road  
Pittsburg, CA 94565  
(510) 427-8138  
(510) 427-8142 Fax



420 West 3rd Street  
Antioch, CA 94809  
(510) 756-7114

2535 Main Street  
Oakley, CA 94561  
(510) 625-0965

July 25, 1997

Mr. Pat O'Brien  
General Manager  
East Bay Regional Park District  
2950 Peralta Oaks Court  
Post Office Box 5381  
Oakland, California 94605-0381

Dear Mr. O'Brien:

The purpose of this letter is conveying my support for your ecosystem restoration proposals to the CALFED Bay-Delta Program. The Big Break area is the future site of the Delta Science Center, a cooperative, community-based effort which I Chair, and further public acquisition and restoration of the wetlands and water courses in that area will carry not only significant benefits to biological resources, but will also enhance opportunities for interpretation and research once the Delta Science Center is completed. Likewise, enhancement of the Farrell Property in West Pittsburg would bring much needed restoration to a degraded wetland area. My constituents have a strong interest in restoring the health of the Delta ecosystem to the benefit of both wildlife and human activities, and I support your efforts to help accomplish this goal in eastern Contra Costa County.

Sincerely,

  
Joe Canciamilla  
Supervisor, District V

JC:lr

Antioch • Bay Point • Bethel Island • Brentwood • Byron



IN REPLY REFER TO:

## United States Department of the Interior

### FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Sacramento Fish and Wildlife Office  
3310 El Camino Avenue, Suite 130  
Sacramento, California 95821-6340

July 25, 1997

Mr. Brad Olson, Environmental Specialist  
East Bay Regional Park District  
P.O. Box 5381  
Oakland, California 94605-0381

Subject: East Bay Regional Park District's Category III Wetland Restoration Proposals

Dear Mr. Olson:

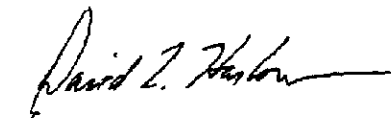
On July 16, 1997, Richard Morat of my staff was visited by George Redpath of Tetra Tech, Inc. who apprised us of three proposed wetland acquisition/restoration/enhancement projects in the San Francisco Bay estuary. We understand that the East Bay Regional Park District (District) is planning to submit these as CALFED Category III applications. These proposals are for Shell Marsh near Alhambra Creek, the Farrell Property near McAvoy, and Big Break near Antioch. We commend the District for their interest in pursuing these projects.

The Shell and Farrell Property marsh projects appear to be projects that deserve our support; you are seeking to restore these two sites to a natural and high value condition by reversing physical conditions created in the past when society understood far less the values and need to protect tidal marshes. The Big Break project is slightly less certain in the nature of enhancement activities to be pursued; acquisition is an early and important phase of this project. We have supported projects of the same concept in the past and if future habitat management activities proposed for Big Break are consistent with our Delta Native Fish Recovery Plan, we will be able to endorse this project.

Your proposals appear consistent with our mission and we support your request for Category III funds. Please, submit a proposal to us for assistance under our San Francisco Bay Program if cost sharing is needed. We can consider your proposal(s) in Fiscal Year 1998.

Again, thanks for having your consultant share these proposed projects and the potential for future partnerships with us. As our experience on Oro Loma has shown, together we all can accomplish more than we can individually.

Sincerely,

  
Wayne S. White  
Field Supervisor

cc: Tetra Tech, Inc. (George Redpath) by FAX 415-974-5914